



ITW

Docket No.: SON-3401  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Toru Nishi et al.

Application No.: 10/572,803

Confirmation No.: 9458

Filed: March 22, 2006

Art Unit: 2622

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD, RECORDING MEDIUM, AND  
PROGRAM

Examiner: B. P. Yenke

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.143**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 2, 2009.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.